

The LORD is NEAR ~ Philippians 4:4-7

→Scripture Reading Phil. 1:12-15, 18-21

Do NOT be ANXIOUS ~ Philippians 4:4-5

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.

TIME - the day of His Return

SPACE - He is Close to each one of His people

IMPLICATIONS

→Our ATTITUDE does NOT have to Reflect our CIRCUMSTANCES

⁴Rejoice IN the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice

Psalm 73:3 (NLT) For I envied the proud when I saw them prosper despite their wickedness.

Psalm 73:25-26 (NLT) Whom have I in heaven but you? I desire You more than anything on earth. ²⁶ My health may fail, and my spirit may grow weak, but God remains the strength of my heart; He is MINE forever.

→The Lord IS NEAR - He is Always WITH us

⁵Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is NEAR.

Psalm 145:17-18 (NIV) The LORD is righteous in ALL His ways and loving toward ALL He has made. ¹⁸ The LORD is NEAR to ALL who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth.

Hebrews 13:5 (NIV) Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

PEACE of God ~ Philippians 4:6-7

⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Philippians 2:20 (ESV) For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely CONCERNED for your welfare.

⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 26:3 (NLT) You will keep in perfect peace ALL who trust in You, ALL whose thoughts are fixed on You!

APPLICATION

⁶ **Don't WORRY** over anything whatever; **TELL God every detail** of your needs in **earnest** and **thankful prayer**, ⁷ and the **PEACE of God** which transcends human understanding, will keep **constant GUARD** over your hearts and minds **as they rest IN Christ Jesus**. (JBP)

⁶ **Don't WORRY** over anything whatever; **TELL God every detail** of your needs in **earnest** and **thankful prayer**... (JBP)

Isaiah 51:12-13 (NLT) I, yes I, AM the one who COMFORTS you. **So why are you AFRAID of mere humans**, who wither like the grass and disappear? ¹³ **Yet you have FORGOTTEN the LORD**, your Creator, the one who stretched out the sky like a canopy and laid the foundations of the earth. Will you remain in **constant DREAD** of human oppressors? Will you **continue to FEAR** the anger of your enemies?...

⁷ and the **PEACE of God** which transcends human understanding, will keep **constant GUARD** over your hearts and minds **as they rest IN Christ Jesus**. (JBP)

TAKE AWAY ??

Because God is NEAR we can...

- REJOICE IN Him
- be GENTLE and Reasonable
- FACE our Fears and Anxiety
- turn to Him in Total DEPENDENCE
- Experience His PEACE

1 Peter 5:6-7 (NIV) Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you.

Said the robin to the sparrow: I should really like to know
Why these anxious human beings Rush about and worry so.
Said the sparrow to the robin: Friend, I think that it must be
That they have no heavenly Father, Such as cares for you and me. E. Cheney